

Traffic Signal System Upgrade The Planning Stage

Presentation by

David Huynh, P.E.

Senior Transportation Engineer

May 6, 2003





Project Background

- ◆ **Project: Replace central system and all field controllers**
- ◆ 145 traffic signals, 134 interconnected
- ◆ Interconnect is copper twisted-pair
- ◆ Had Multisonics VMS 330 central system with 820A & 870 controllers
- ◆ Failing VMS → Loss of signal coordination

Project Schedule

Milestones	Start	End
Defined Existing Conditions, Goals, & Objectives	April 2001	--
RFI, Vendor Presentations, System Beta Test, RFP	May 2001	December 2001
System Selection / Award	--	February 2002
Central System Setup	June 2002	June 2002
Field Controllers Deployed	June 2002	February 2003
60-Day Operational Test and System Acceptance	TBD	



Goals and Objectives

- ◆ Greater system reliability and support
- ◆ Reduce reliability in center to field communications
- ◆ Maximize COTS products, reduce reliability on single vendor
- ◆ Turnkey solution
- ◆ Migrate to TS2
- ◆ NTCIP for center-to-field
- ◆ Accessibility and portability
- ◆ Integration of other field devices (CCTV, EVP, MMU, BBS, etc.)
- ◆ Silicon Valley Smart Corridor



Understand the Key Issues

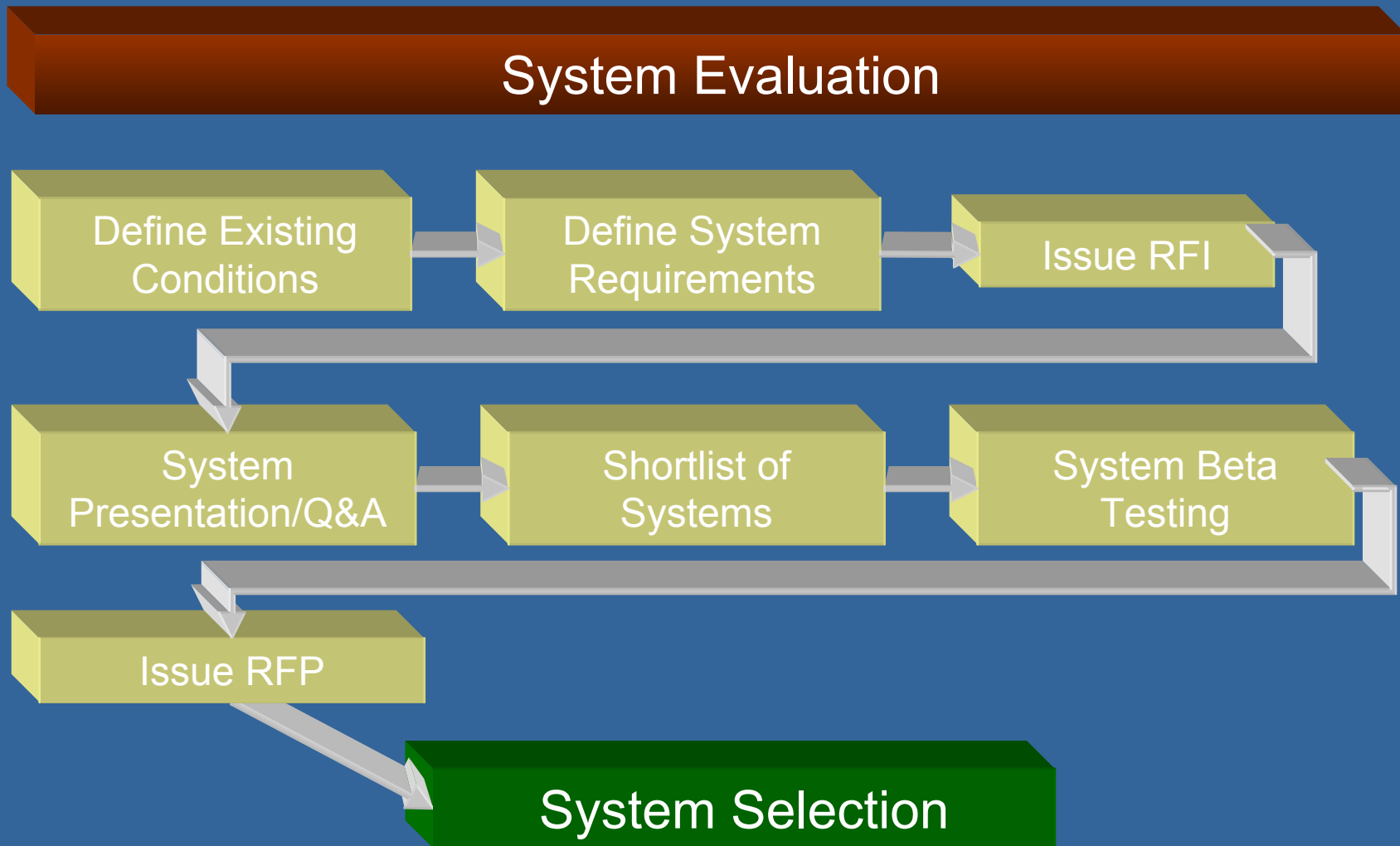
- ◆ Functional features
- ◆ Company integrity
- ◆ Current deployments
- ◆ Current user satisfaction
- ◆ Customer support
- ◆ Controller compatibility
- ◆ NTCIP related issues
- ◆ Cost



System Acquisition

- ◆ Concerns about traditional low-bid acquisition approach
- ◆ Disadvantage 1: Write semi-generic specification. Keeps pricing competitive but could end up with undesirable system.
- ◆ Disadvantage 2a: Write a very specific specification. Guarantee system of choice but pricing is subject to vendor control.
- ◆ Disadvantage 2b: Vendor has lock on system. May require contractor purchase of other items (video detection, cabinets, etc.). Pricing subject to vendor control.
- ◆ Disadvantage 3: Contractor acts as middle-man. Agency pays a mark-up and works directly with vendor anyways.

Our Acquisition Approach



A vertical traffic signal light with three lenses. The top lens is red, the middle lens is yellow, and the bottom lens is green. The signal is mounted on a metal pole.

Look for Other Opportunities

- ◆ TMC Upgrade
- ◆ Reconfigure Interconnect
- ◆ Standardize Signal Timing
- ◆ System Management



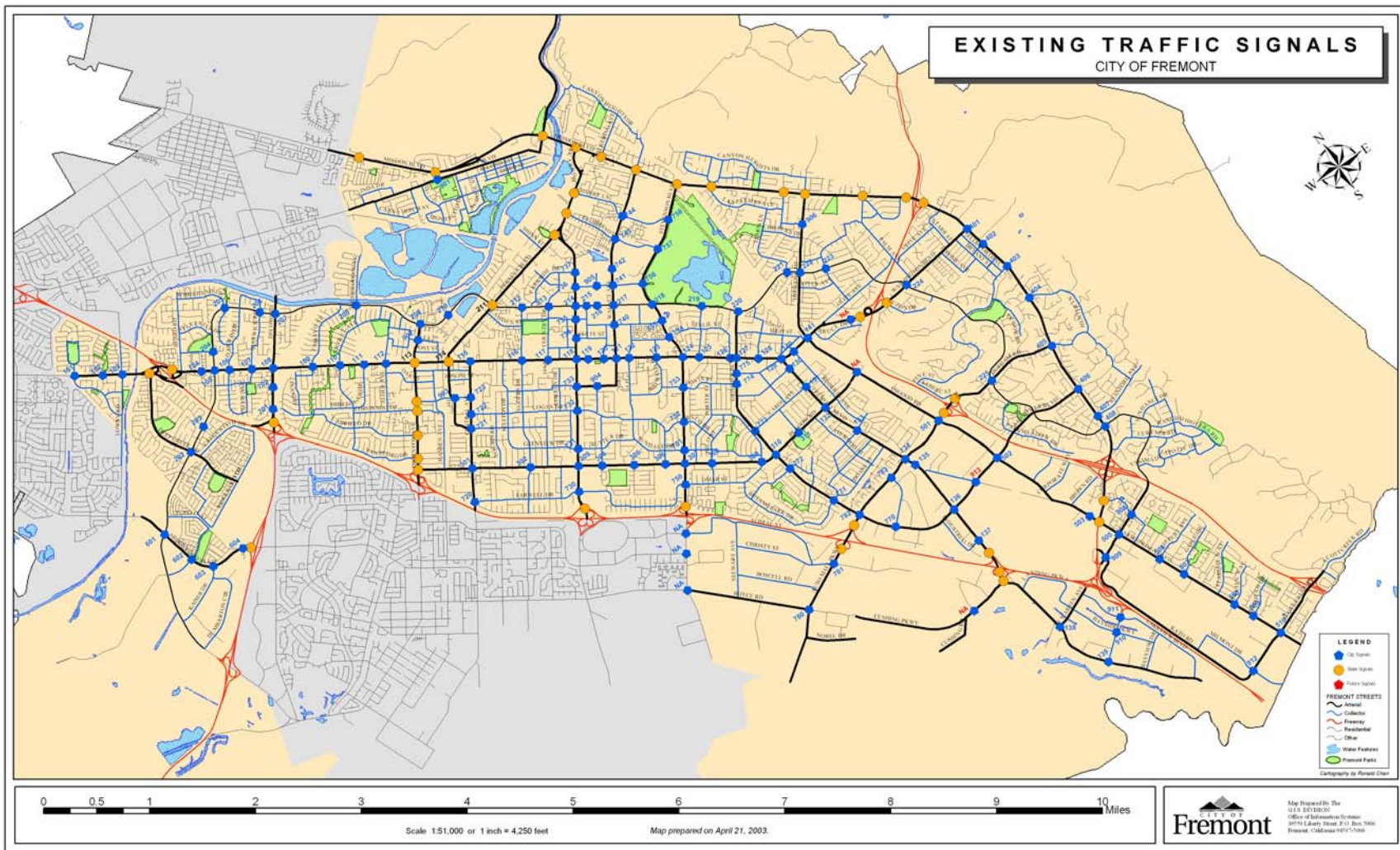
Recommendations & Lessons Learned

- ◆ Separate signal system procurement from more traditional contractor bid items
- ◆ Critical scrutiny of system features (verify, verify, verify)
- ◆ Plan transition from old to new system
- ◆ Allow flexibility in your technology
- ◆ Get support and advice from your IS staff

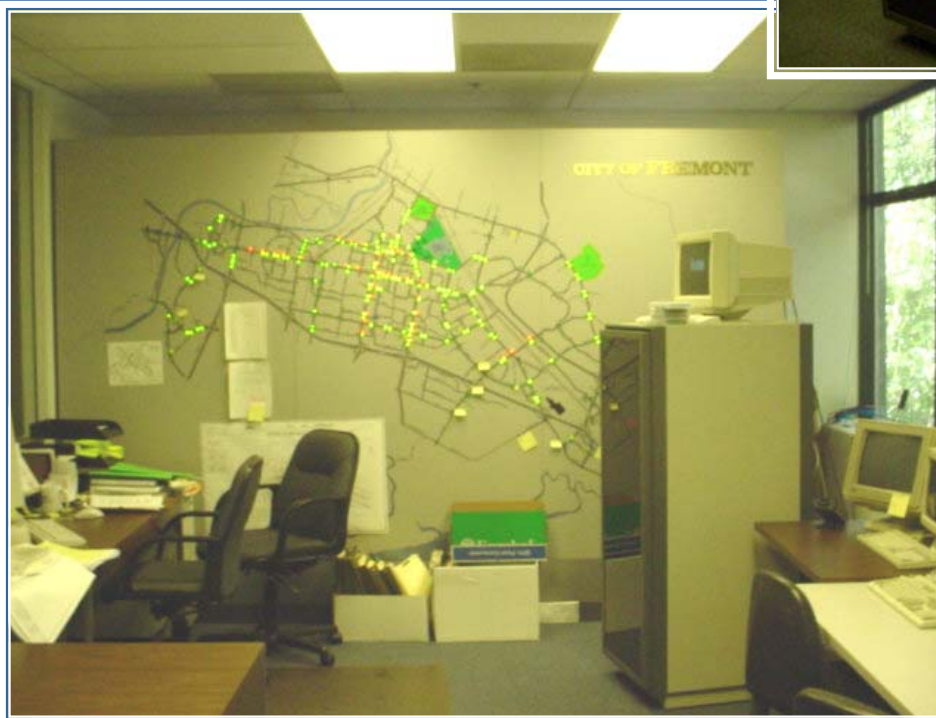
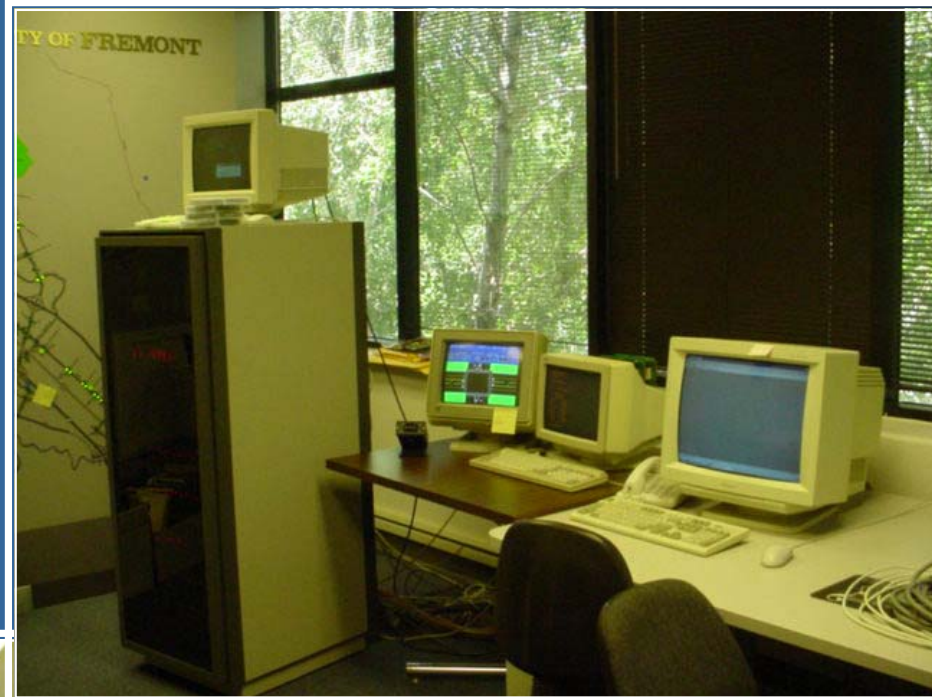
Questions and Answers



City Traffic Signals



Fremont TMC Before



Fremont TMC "After"



Communications Channel Grouping

